

REMARKS


Claims 9-27 are now pending in this application, with Claim 9 being independent.

By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled Claims 1-8, and amended Claim 9, to attend to formal matters. No new matter has been added.

Applicants request favorable examination of the present claims and early passage to issue of this case.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Justin J. Oliver  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No.: 44,986

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3800  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

JJO/tmm

DC\_MAIN 245641v1